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Masonic Conference of DeKalb
County, Alabama 1898 :
Minutes of the sixth Masonic
Conference of DeKalb Co., AL

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MINUTES

—OF THE—

SIXTH MASONIC CONFERENCE

—OF—

DEKALB COUNTY, ALABAMA,

—HELD WITH—

HALL OF FORT PAYNE LODGE, A. F. AND A. M.,

No. 437,

FEBRUARY 24TH, A. D., 1898, A. L., 5898.

OFFICERS OF THE CONVENTION:

W. T. FULLER, - - WORSHIPFUL MASTER.
H. A. McSPADDEN, - - SECRETARY.

1898.
JOURNAL PRINT,
Fort Payne, - Alabama.

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PROCEEDINGS.

Hall of Fort Payne Lodge, No. 437.
Fort Payne, Ala., February 21, A. D., 1898, A. L. 5898.

The sixth Masonic Conference of DeKalb county, Alabama, met in the Hall of Fort Payne Lodge, A. F. and A. M., No. 437, on the 24th day of February, A. D. 1898, A. L. 5898, at 10 o'clock a. m.

The following lodges were represented: Fort Payne Lodge, No. 437; Valley Head Lodge, No. 394; Davis Lodge, No. 518; Van Buren Lodge, No. 355; Black Oak Lodge, No. 397; DeKalb Lodge, No. 116.

A Master Mason's Lodge was opened by Bro. W. T. Fuller, W. M., of Fort Payne Lodge, No. 437. On motion of Bro. John L. White, W. T. Fuller, W. M. of Fort Payne Lodge, No. 437, appointed the following officers of the Conference: Sam P. Smith, W. M. of Davis Lodge, S. W.; J. A. Rice, J. W. of Valley Head Lodge, J. W.; P. M. Green, Treasurer of Fort Payne Lodge, Treasurer; H. A. McSpadden, Secretary of Fort Payne Lodge, Secretary; J. M. Price, S. D. of Valley Head Lodge, S. D.; J. W. Jones of Davis Lodge, J. D.; C. M. Sampley of Fort Payne Lodge, Tyler; W. W. Haralson of Fort Payne Lodge, and Frank Barnard of Valley Head Lodge, Stewards; J. B. Appleton of Van Buren Lodge, Chaplain.

Grand Master Bilbro was present and was received by the Conference with the Grand Honors. Bro. A. M. Scott, Chairman of the committee on work for the State of Alabama, was present and was heartily received by the Conference.

The delegates were called and their names enrolled. There were present delegates from six Lodges in the county. Mahan Lodge failing to be represented.

The Conference was called from labor to refreshment until 1:30 p. m.

The Conference was called from refreshment to labor at 1:30 p. m. by W. T. Fuller, W. M. Prayer by the Chaplian.

The E. A. Degree was exemplified by Bro. A. M. Scott, chairman of committee on work.

On motion of Past Master Haralson, reports of Lodges was made the special business for 9 o'clock tomorrow.

On motion Past Master White, the ladies meeting was made the special business for 2:30 o'clock tomorrow.

On motion the public address was set for 11 o'clock tomorrow.

On motion the following committee was appointed to arrange public speaking, viz: Bros. White, Crump and Culbertson, who reported the following:

Song—Prayer.

Address by Bro. A. M. Scott. .

Song.—Benediction.

On motion, Black Oak Lodge, No. 397, was selected as the place for holding our next Conference commencing on Thursday, August 26th, 1898, at 10 o'clock a. m.

The Conference was called from labor to refreshment until 7 o'clock p. m.

The Conference was called from refreshment to labor 7 o'clock p. m. Prayer by the Chaplain.

The F. C. degree was exemplied by by Bro. A. M. Scott. The M. M. degree was exemplied by Bro. A. M. Scott.

The Conference was called from labor to refreshment until 8 o'clock a. m., Febrnary 25th.

The Conference was called from refreshment to labor by W. T. Fuller, W. M., at 8 o'clock a. m., Febrnary 25th. Prayer by the Chaplain.

The W. M. appointed the following committee on finance: Past Master, W. W. Haralson; W. M., G. M. D. Lowry; W. M., G. A. Thacker.

On motion the W. M. appointed the following committee on work: Bro. J. L. White, chairman, W. W. Haralson, G. M. D. Lowry, Jesse Barnard, R. M. Crump.

On motion, of Past Master White, the sympathies of this Conference was tendered Bro. Horton, one of his children having lately been severely burned.

The committee on finance made the following report:

Balance on hand last Conference	$9 55
Amount paid out by treasurer	9 15
Leaving balance on hand	10
Amount received at this Conference	9 15
Balance now on hand	$9 55

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. Haralson,
G. M. D. Lowry,
G. A. Thacker.

The following poem was read by Bro. C. Y. Culbertson, and on motion it was unanimously agreed to spread the poem on the minutes of the Conference:

We have met again in convention,
And soon to our homes we'll go;
Will we all meet again together,
Or will God in his wisdom say, No?

Will I be at the next Conference?
Will you? Will you? Will you?
Listen the Master is calling,
Who is it? Who? Who? Who?

When the great architect of the universe,
Sounds the gavel of time;
And the roll is called up yonder,
By the voice of Him sublime.

May each Brother Mason present,
Who has said in God I trust,
Be found among the righteous;
I must, I must, I must.

On motion, a committee was appointed to draft a suitable resolution of sympathy on the illness of Bro. Ransom to be sent to Willie Ransom his son, who is W. M. of Birmingham Fraternal Lodge, consisting of the following brothers: W. W. Haralson, G. M. D. Lowry and R. M. Crump.

At 11 o'clock Bro. A. M. Scott addressed a large and attentive audience at the court house.

The Conference was called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock p. m.

The Conference was called from refreshment to labor at 2 o'clock p. m. Prayer by the Chaplain.

On motion of Bro. W. C. D. Cook, S. W. of Fort Payne Lodge, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Conference that we deeply regret that Mahan Lodge, No. 190, was not represented at this Conference, and we hope hereafter they will see proper to be with us and aid and assist us in the improvement of Masonry in DeKalb county.

The thanks of this Conference was unanimously tendered our Grand Master Jas. A. Bilbro and Bro. A. M. Scott, chairman of the committee on work for the state of Alabama, for their presence and able assistance during our Conference.

On motion, of Grand Master Bilbro, the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That the names of the ladies who took the Eastern Star degree be spread upon the minutes of this Conference.

The following ladies were present and had confered upon them the Eastern Star degree: Mesdames Fannie Cotnam, Lida Majors, Ida Green, Mary Hammock, Josie Fuller, Octavia Payne,

Hattie Kidder, Cinda Frazier, Elvira Shankles, Georgia Sampley, Eliza Warren, Mary E. Jeffries, C. E. Menke, Mary J. McSpadden and Eliza Killian, Misses Lou Moody, Florence Cook, Florence McSpadden, Celia Warren, Laura Duffy, Emma Jeffries and Fannie Duffy.

On motion, of G. M. D. Lowry, W. M. of Valley Head Lodge, the thanks of this Conference was tendered the brethren, sisters and friends of Masonry at Fort Payne and vicinity for their kind hospitality shown us during the session of this Conference.

The Conference was then closed in form after song and prayer. Adjourned to meet with Black Oak Lodge, No. 397, at 10 o'clock, August 26th, 1898.

REPORT OF LODGES.

Masonic Conference of DeKalb county, Alabama, Fort Payne Lodge, No. 437, A. F. and A. M., February 25th, A. D., 1898:

1. What is your membership? Forty-five.
2. Do you own your lodge hall? We do.
3. What is the value of your hall? $500.00.
4. Is your hall insured? It is, for $500.00.
5. Do your officers attend regularly? They do.
6. Do your members attend regularly? They do not.
7. Do your officers endeavor to make the work in the lodge interesting and profitable? Our officers endeavor to make the work interesting.
8. Do you visit your sick and administer to their wants? We do.
9. Does your lodge look after the widows and orphans in your jurisdiction and contribute to their relief? It does.
10. Have you any drunkenness or profanity in your lodge or any violation of Masonic law? We have some drunkenness and profanity by a few of our members.
11. Does your lodge look after M. M. graves? It does.
12. Does your lodge give certificates to their widows? It does.
13. Are your members living in peace and harmony with each other? They are.
14. How many deaths in your lodge since last Conference? We have had no deaths.
15. What is your lodge dues, and how many of your members pay lodge dues? $1.00 per year, and forty-two pay lodge dues.

W. T. Fuller, Worshipful Master.

Masonic Conference of DeKalb county, Alabama, Black Oak Lodge, No. 397, A. F. and A. M., February 25th, A. D., 1898:

1. What is your membership? Fourteen.
2. Do you own your lodge hall? We do.
3. What is the value of your hall? $200.00.
4. Is your hall insured? It is not.
5. Do your officers attend regularly? They do not.
6. Do your members attend regularly? They do not.
7. Do your officers endeavor to make the work in the lodge interesting and profitable? We do, as far as we can.
8. Do you visit your sick and administer to their wants? Not as a lodge should do.
9. Does your lodge look after the widows and orphans in your jurisdiction and contribute to their wants? It does.
10. Have you any drunkenness or profanity in your lodge or any violation of Masonic law? We have none.
11. Does your lodge look after M. M. graves? Not as a lodge.
12. Does your lodge give certificates to their widows? It does.
13. Are your members living in peace and harmony with each other? They are.
14. How many deaths in yours lodge since last Conference? One death.
15. What is your lodge dues, and how many of your members pay lodge dues? $1.00 per year, and twelve pay dues.

G. A. Thacker, Worshipful Master.

Masonic Conference of DeKalb county, Alabama, Van Buren Lodge, No. 35, A. F. and A. M., February 25th, A. D., 1898:

1. What is your membership? Sixty.
2. Do you own your lodge hall? We do.
3. What is the value of your hall? $500.00.
4. Is your hall insured? It is not.
5. Do your officers attend regularly? They do.
6. Do your members attend regularly? They do not.
7. Do your officers endeavor to make the work in the lodge interesting and profitable? They do.
8. Do you visit your sick and administer to their wants? Not as a lodge.
9. Does your lodge look after the widows and orphans in your jurisdiction and contribute to their wants? Not as a lodge.
10. Have you any drunkenness or profanity in your lodge or any violation of Masonic law? We have not.
11. Does your lodge look after M. M. graves? It does.
12. Does your lodge give certificates to their widows? It does.
13. Are your members living in peace and harmony with each other? They are.
14. How many deaths in your lodge since last Conference? We have had no deaths in our lodge.
15. What is your lodge dues, and how many of your members pay lodge dues?

R. M. Crump, Worshipful Master.

Masonic Conference of DeKalb county, Alabama, Davis Lodge, No. 518, A. F. and A. M., February 25th, A. D., 1898:

1. What is your membership? Thirty-eight.
2. Do you own your lodge hall? We do.
4. Is your hall insured? It is not.
5. Do your officers attend regularly? They do.

6. Do your members attend regularly? About 50 per cent. do.
7. Do your officers endeavor to make the work in the lodge interesting and profitable? They do.
8. Do you visit your sick and administer to their wants? We do.
9. Does your lodge look after the widows and orphans in your jurisdiction and contribute to their relief? It does.
10. Have you any drunkenness or profanity in your lodge or any violation of Masonic law? We have.
11. Does your lodge look after M. M. graves? It does not.
12. Does your lodge give certificates to their widows? It does.
13. Are your members living in peace and harmony with each other? They are.
14. How many deaths in your lodge since last Conference? Not any.
15. What is your lodge dues, and how many of your members pay lodge dues? Dues, $1.00, and thirty-six members pay dues.

S. P. Smith, Worshipful Master.

Masonic Conference of DeKalb county, Alabama, Valley Head Lodge, No. 394, A. F. and A. M., February 25th, A. D., 1898:

1. What is your membership? Fifty.
2. Do you own your lodge hall? We do.
3. What is the value of your hall? $300.00.
4. Is your hall insured? It is not.
5. Do your officers attend regularly? Very well.
6. Do your members attend regularly? About 65 per cent.
7. Do your officers endeavor to make the work in the lodge interesting and profitable? They do.
8. Do you visit your sick and administer to their wants? We do.
9. Does your lodge look after the widows and orphans in your jurisdiction and contribute to their relief? It does.
10. Have you any drunkenness or profanity in your lodge or any violation of Masonic lay? We have none.
11. Does your lodge look after M. M. graves? It does.
12. Does your lodge give certificates to their widows? It does.
13. Are your members living in peace and harmony with each other? They are.
14. How many deaths in your lodge since last Conference? No deaths.
15. What is your lodge dues, and how many of your members pay lodge dues? Dues, $1.00 per year, and we all pay dues.

G. M. D. Lowry, Worshipful Master.

DeKalb Lodge, No. 116, failed to make written report.

W. T. FULLER, Worshipful Master.

H. A. McSPADDEN, Secretary.

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